

that inst., to protest against the outrages perpetrated in Louisiana.

STORY OF AN EYE-WITNESS.

There arrived in this city on Thursday evening from New Orleans Mr. E. Solomon, a gentleman well known in the business and social circles of New York, and who for more than thirty years was a merchant of the Crescent City. Subsequent to the war he had established a banking house there; but, like many others of the old-time citizens, he soon wearied of the grievous exactions and oppressions heaped upon the business community by the various carpet-bag governments of unhappy Louisiana and closed up his affairs, resolved to wait for more auspicious times and until the better sense and appreciation of the Northern people should relieve their Southern brethren of the heavy incubus which rested upon them. He has, however, remained a resident of New Orleans during certain seasons of the year, and retained a lively interest in all that appertained to the State. He was in that city on the occasion of General Sheridan's late extraordinary action there, and was an eye-witness to much that occurred. In conversation with a representative of the Herald yesterday he said:—

MR. SOLOMON'S STATEMENT.

I arrived in New Orleans on Tuesday evening prior to the meeting of the Legislature, which took place on Monday, the 4th inst. On the following day I met General Emory and several members of his staff and many of the leading bankers, merchants, and members of the White League. In conversation with them I became satisfied that the city was in as peaceful condition as it had been during any time for twenty years. I had an interview with Mr. Phelps, of the Congressional Committee, on the same day, when tented to confirm this impression and to excite within me those feelings of hope for the future which were becoming so prevalent in the community.

GENERAL SHERIDAN'S ARRIVAL.

On Wednesday night General Sheridan arrived in New Orleans, and on Thursday morning he was waited upon by Kellogg and a number of his carpet-bag followers. He had no intercourse whatever with any respectable or responsible parties in New Orleans, either on that day or at any time.

REPORTER.—None of the leading citizens called on him?

MR. SOLOMON.—Not one.

REPORTER.—What was the reason of this?

MR. SOLOMON.—Why, it was given out from the start that he had come there in no official position; that he was merely on his way to Cuba. He affirmed that he did not intend to interfere in the affairs of the State in any shape or form. A staff officer of General Emory, as he told me, expressed the hope to Sheridan that he had come down there to relieve them, and Sheridan responded that he did not intend to assume command or have anything to do with matters there. A great personal friend of Sheridan from Chicago, where at the time, and who claimed to have a knowledge of his intentions, told me the same thing. It was everywhere so understood, and of course none of the citizens thought it necessary to call upon him to represent the true state of affairs. He was there merely in a private capacity, and his assumption of command came upon the people like a thunderbolt. I had rooms at the St. Charles Hotel, and I am satisfied that Sheridan had no communication whatever with the *bona fide* citizens of New Orleans. The conservatives were led to believe by Kellogg and others that there would be

A PEACEFUL ORGANIZATION.

of the House with a conservative majority. Kellogg admitted this to your correspondent there. General Emory had no sort of idea of interfering with the organization of the Legislature except where there should be an actual outbreak. My rooms at the hotel were the daily resort of officers of the army and navy, and of the leading conservative citizens and officers of that terrible banditti, the White League, and everywhere and by everybody there was but one opinion expressed, that there would be no interference of any law-abiding citizen or any interference with the federal forces. The entire people were jubilant at the prospect of their duly elected representatives meeting and organizing peacefully. No fears or suspicions were entertained by the people until Kellogg issued orders to General Campbell, commanding his militia to take possession of the State House and hold it.

THE FATAL DAY.

On Monday morning, soon after five o'clock, I met an officer of General Emory's command, who informed me that United States troops would be stationed about the State House. I asked him what was the necessity for this, when everything was peaceful and the city as quiet as it had been for thirty years. He responded that Sheridan had ordered General Emory's march to the State House, and there were two companies of cavalry and a company of cavalry, and suggested to me that I go to the State House if I wished to see them. I did so about seven o'clock and saw the troops concentrating at that time. On my way I met the agent of the Associated Press, and together we examined the building. Every window and door was barred with heavy timbers, resembling a fortress prepared for a desperate assault. As we walked along the troops with file and drum began to take position. As we were turning the corner upon which the State House was situated I was stopped by a man who proved to be a captain of the police. He said he had received orders to allow no one to pass except members of the Legislature. We were compelled to turn and make our way to the hotel in another direction. Arrived there I made known the fact that I had been stopped and someone of considerable excitement resulted. I endeavored to find some member of the Congressional Committee to report the fact to him, but without success. Judge Kennard, however, informed Mr. Clarkson, N. Poter, of the Committee, with the Judge's suggestion, went down there, and was unknown refused permission to pass.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

I don't know that I can tell you anything new about the meeting of the Legislature. It met at twelve M. and with 102 members present. Mr. Witz was made temporary Chairman and a temporary Clerk was appointed, the republican members all participating. I presume most of them knew nothing about the proposed interference of the troops. A motion was made to admit four or five contestants to a seat, which was carried. The body then proceeded to the election of Speaker, and Witz, elected, the republicans not voting, though there was a sufficient number of conservatives to constitute a quorum. As soon as this was made known to Kellogg the contesting members were ejected by the troops, and as this left the body without a quorum the requisite number of contesting republicans were admitted, who were not ejected by the troops.

THE FEELING IN THE CITY.

Naturally the news was soon promulgated throughout the city, and on every side, and on the part of every citizen the determination was expressed to submit to all the tyranny and oppression which General Sheridan and President Grant could practice, looking to the future for redress. All the old citizens whom Sheridan calls "banditti," the bankers, the merchants and others determined that nothing should be done upon their part to cause the slightest difficulty. Governor McInery and Lieutenant Governor Penn were foremost in the efforts made to maintain the peace and counseled at once with General Ogden, commanding the White League—who, by the way, was once a clerk in my store—how best to do so. But there was no trouble; the people of New Orleans are entirely controlled by those gentlemen, in the highest to the lowest, and will carry out their wishes in every way.

THE ST. CHARLES HOTEL AND OTHER PUBLIC RESORTS WERE CROWDED WITH PROTESTERS AND ARE EVERYWHERE BUT ONE SENTIMENT OF PEACE AND QUIETLY. THE ANTICIPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE WERE, OF COURSE, BLIGHTED, AND THE OLD TIME SEEMED come again when Butler rased the city with a rod of iron.

SHERIDAN'S ADVISERS.

General Sheridan is surrounded entirely by Kellogg and his supporters, and, of course, takes his cue from them. He was sent down there to make the Legislature republican with the bayonet. He knows nothing about the condition

There were, therefore, and does not care to know. He has taken no advice except from the plunderers and robbers who have had the people under control for the past six or eight years. If they and the city of New Orleans were allowed to control their State and municipal organizations no State or city in the Union would be more prosperous. Ground down as they are by excessive taxation and a ruinous and oppressive government, a little time more will bring the few that are left to penury. The people there are as true in their allegiance to the federal government as are the people of New York; but all they ask is to manage their own affairs. Rid New Orleans and the State of the influence that have been in official position there for the last eight years and they will do more toward enabling the government to resume specie payment by the increased production of cotton and sugar than all the legislation of Congress for years to come.

BUSINESS.

The business of the city had revived somewhat following the election, in the anticipation of an honest government. But the action of General Sheridan will have the effect to make things worse than they were before, and the people have nothing but utter ruin to hope for. Straggle that a hot-headed, foolish soldier should thus be permitted to destroy the prosperity and happiness of a great people in the interest of a lot of rapacious robbers and political ringleaders.

THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.

A favorable report is confidently expected from the Congressional Committee sent to Louisiana to investigate affairs there. From the character of the evidence it can scarcely be otherwise.

Mr. Solomon, in concluding his statement, spoke in the highest terms of Messrs. Foster, Phelps and Potter, of the committee, and said the people of Louisiana would be perfectly willing to leave their case to those gentlemen.

LOUISIANA IN CONGRESS.

THE DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1875.

The Senate to-day resumed the consideration of the unlished business, being the resolution of Mr. Thurman, (dem.) of Ohio, in regard to the Louisiana troubles.

A FORMER DISCRETIONARY RESOLUTION.

MR. BAYARD, (dem.) of Del., said two years ago he introduced a resolution calling upon the President for information in regard to the conduct of Major Lewis Merrill, of the United States army, in North Carolina. Then, as now, the Senator from New York (Mr. Conkling) offered an amendment making it discretionary with the President to answer it. That resolution, with the amendment, passed the Senate on the 3d of March, 1873, and to this day the President had treated it with contemptuous silence. With the full knowledge of the conduct of this Major Merrill, in South Carolina, he had been sent to "green fields and pastures new" in Louisiana. Never since the time when the American colonies had separated themselves from Great Britain had the people of this country been brought face to face with greater questions than those of to-day—questions needing the most careful consideration. The issue was whether we should have

FREE GOVERNMENT OR A MILITARY DICTATORSHIP.

The remarks of the Senators from Indiana (Mr. Morton), Vermont (Mr. Edmunds) and Illinois (Mr. Logan) were calculated to obscure the question by paralyzing appeals to divert the minds of the Senators from the American people's case. Mr. Bayard then spoke of the circumstances attending the organization of the Legislature of Louisiana, the action of the Returning Board, &c., and said in States of three and four times the population of Louisiana the election returns were tabulated and promulgated within a week after the election. In great cities, with a population equal to that of Louisiana, they had been promulgated within forty-eight hours after the polls closed; but in Louisiana the Returning Board was occupied in canvassing the returns nearly two months, and in every case of dispute or doubt they decided in favor of the Kellogg officers. He read from the constitution of Louisiana and argued that there was an organization of the House of Representatives of that State on Monday last by the conservatives, that there was a quorum of the House present and that the organization was under the constitution. He asked the Senators and the American people the case. Mr. Sheridan had the legal warrant to interfere in all organization of that Legislature, and declared that this debate would close and no lawyer would be able to produce any statute showing the warrant for any such action.

DIRTY WORK.

MR. BAYARD then quoted from a speech delivered by him in the Senate on the 27th of February, 1873, in which he argued that the dangers which were menacing the liberties of the people of Louisiana then were also menacing the liberties of the American people. Had the policy of the President been modified since then? No, sir; it had been doggedly intensified. There was not one case where the displeasure of the President had been signified by the removal of an improper official—not a single instance of rebuke. Sheridan had been sent to New Orleans secretly to draggon the people of Louisiana. He arrived there only three days before the meeting of the Legislature. He conferred with none of those who had the welfare of the State at heart, but only with Kellogg and his adherents, and then produced the warrant, and placed the authority to assume command. Other officers of the army, higher and lower than General Sheridan, had been passed over, and he was personally selected to interfere thus with the organization of the State Legislature. He (Mr. Bayard) did not wish to detract from the glories of this officer. They were an officer in a career of rough war; but he was an officer of the army of the United States, fed and clothed by the people, and a servant of the people, and in no way their master. He then read from the constitution of the United States, and said, if his cavalry officer, with whatever glory he may have attained by his sword, is stronger than our guarantees of liberty, then let us know it now. The issue cannot be raised too soon.

— THE "BANDITRY" DESPATCH.

MR. BAYARD then quoted from despatches of Sheridan to the Secretary of War, and asked, Who would say that this officer (Sheridan) was ever fit to breathe the air of a republican government? He then quoted from the despatch of Sheridan arguing that certain persons be declared "bandits," and said he would now place the tone in the Executive Department of this country that this officer who (Sheridan) would never sign his name again as Lieutenant General of the United States Army. If that officer had been in a hostile country he could not have made a more brutal or bloody threat. Such language as that used in his despatch was like that used by a captain of a band of janissaries asking for instructions from some oriental despot. General Sheridan had no one quality to fit him for the duties of commanding in Louisiana. His first quality should be good will toward the people of the State.

PREROGATIVES OF THE STATE.

MR. BAYARD next read the despatch of Secretary Becknap approving the course of General Sheridan, and said the disgust which he (Mr. Bayard) felt at the language of General Sheridan was rather increased toward him who would pen such an answer. He believed the American people would repudiate Mr. Becknap and those who were the roots to endorse the action of General Sheridan. The proposition was here presented for the first time that the President of the United States could of his own motion adjudge the fact that such domestic violence existed in a State as would justify him in interfering in the organization of a State Legislature. The powers of a State Legislature to judge of the qualification and election of its own members were just as secure as the powers of the Congress of the United States to judge of its members. If Congress permitted such power as this to be exercised by the President in Louisiana to-day it might be exercised in New York to-morrow, Massachusetts the next day and in the Congress of the United States on the 4th of March next. A single brigade could take charge of the Capitol on the 4th of March next, shut out the people and give seats to the friends of the dominant

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the Senate would begin at the right and have the information desired before continuing the debate.

Mr. WEST, (rep. of La., again referred to the doubts in that State for years past, and said the Senator Sheridan desired to have an investigation made into the case of those taken from the State and had never laid them down, though commanded to do so by the proclamation of General Sheridan. He said he had arms taken from the State, which had never been returned, as follows:—Two mountain howitzers, 100 lbs. each; 100 lbs. of small arms; 4 Enfield rifles, 50 Spencer carbines and 1,500 bayonets.

PHYSICAL OUTRAGES AND OUTRAGES.

Mr. MORRISON spoke in favor of his amendment, and quoted from the reports of the committees of Congress to show that there were armed bands of men in the State of Louisiana, and that the committee had reported to the Senate and to the other side of this Chamber who had assailed and killed; but while they were studying law and learning how to argue, Pull was in the field fighting the battle of the colored man. (Mr. MORRISON) did not doubt there were more men killed for political purposes in Louisiana than had been killed in all the wars of the United States. (Mr. MORRISON) said he thought that looked to him as if it was a preconcerted plan to exterminate the republican party in Louisiana. He said that if some of those on the other side would have one of those Stars, and all they had to do would be to get one or two Northern Senators and then elect the next President, they would have the same thing as the Ku Klux organization exist.

Mr. THURMAN inquired when and by whom such a plan was made.

Mr. MORRISON said it had been repeatedly denied the democratic.

Mr. THURMAN said the other course was name an insurrection.

Mr. MORRISON, resuming his argument, quoted from the speech of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. GORDON) in the Senate, that he had come to that State, and said, while he had no doubt the Senator was sincere in his statement, he (Mr. MORRISON) did not doubt that the Senator was a hypocrite. He had evidence that 400 negroes in Georgia were deprived of the right of suffrage because they were colored men.

Mr. GORDON inquired the name of the writer.

Mr. MORRISON said it was not very safe to make public the names of the republicans in the South, because they would be killed.

Mr. GORDON replied that the reports of outrages were exaggerated, and said in one instance he had seen a colored man killed. (Mr. MORRISON) declared to have been elected. A republican was asserted that unless he was made United States Senator and Superintendent of Roads he would be killed. He said that he had 7,000 or 8,000 of 7,000 majority. That man was elected United States Senator and Superintendent of Roads.

Mr. MORRISON—Who was that man?

Mr. GORDON—Foster Blodgett.

Mr. MORRISON, resuming, said a republican vote was given to General Grant.

Mr. GORDON said his predecessor in the Senate Joshua Hill was a republican when he occupied a seat in the Senate, and he (Mr. MORRISON) was a democrat, for causes which suited him, to change his opinion. No man stood higher in the State than Mr. Hill, and he was a republican when he was elected to the republican party many went with him there were many colored men in Georgia who were the democratic ticket. His (Mr. GORDON's) friends were the republican party, and he (Mr. MORRISON) desired to vote the democratic ticket, but feared to do so, as he would be murdered by men of his own party.

Mr. MORRISON said the language of the Senator from Georgia would do in this debate, but it would hardly do in Georgia or in Faneuil Hall, in Boston.

Mr. GORDON said he had no objection to what he (Mr. GORDON) uttered sentiments here which he would not utter in Georgia or in Faneuil Hall, he uttered a libel on his (Mr. GORDON's) character.

Mr. MORRISON said the sentiments of the gentleman were not operative.

Mr. MORRISON said the gentleman was operative.

Mr. MERRISON, (dem. of N. C., also spoke of peace existing in the South and especially in Louisiana State.

A KU KLUX JUDGE.

Mr. SCOTT, of Pennsylvania, asked the Senator (Mr. MORRISON) if he remembered the name of a man who was a member of the Ku Klux organization, and who had been made a judge by the people of that State?

Mr. MERRISON replied he did, and the district of that judge was one of the quietest districts in the State.

Mr. SCOTT inquired if that same judge had not shot down a negro in the street, and had never been punished.

Mr. MERRISON said it was not true that Judge Rank had shot down a negro in the street. The negro was shot down by the people of that State, who refused to leave after being warned. The Judge fired and killed the negro, and immediately went to a magistrate and surrendered himself.

In conclusion Mr. MERRISON said there was not more quiet community than that of North Carolina.

Mr. GORDON said that the people of that State were a republic and a democratic Legislature, but perfect peace reigned.

Mr. GORDON said he had heard from Indiana (Mr. THURMAN) and spoken of the democrats carrying Georgia and the republican vote falling off. He (Mr. GORDON) would like to inquire of that Senator whether he had heard of any such military force carried Ohio, which State a short time previously gave 40,000 republican majority; how many of those carried the State? He (Mr. GORDON) said he had heard of the State of Pennsylvania—the Keystone State.

Mr. GORDON challenged a comparison of the report received of Indiana, and those of Georgia, and said he was not carried by the republicans.

THE NEW YORK MASS MEETING.

Mr. THURMAN said all this cry of outrages and bloodshed was a mere pretext. The State registers were made up to obscure the real question. Did the Senators on that side think they could deceive such men as this, and the people of New York, who were going to a meeting in New York, and another who had signed it, one of the greatest republican editors? The people of this country could not be deceived. When the Senate at the information called for by the resolution it would be only on the facts, but if it contained one false fact, this action of the Senate would be sanctioned by the President he (Mr. THURMAN) would be satisfied.

Mr. MERRISON then withdrew his amendment, and the amendment submitted by Mr. MORRISON passed.

Mr. SARGENT submitted an amendment to insert in the resolution "and to inform the Senate, if not incompatible with the public interest, whether any portion of the army of the United States is now in Louisiana, whether any person or persons claiming seats in either branch of said Legislature, have been deprived thereof by the military force of the United States, or by any officers, officer or soldier, and if such has been the case, to report the same, together with the circumstances and by what authority such military intervention and interference have taken place, and to report the same to the Senate." The amendment was adopted.

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The amendment of Mr. SARGENT was agreed to, and the resolution was adopted. The State registers were made up to obscure the real question. Did the Senators on that side think they could deceive such men as this, and the people of New York, who were going to a meeting in New York, and another who had signed it, one of the greatest republican editors? The people of this country could not be deceived. When the Senate at the information called for by the resolution it would be only on the facts, but if it contained one false fact, this action of the Senate would be sanctioned by the President he (Mr. THURMAN) would be satisfied.

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